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SECRET
NOFORN/NOCONTRACT/ORCON

Schneider

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs
EO 13526 3.5(c)

INR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS NR
OF DEVELOPMENTS IN HUMAN RIGHTS*

No. 21, September 7, 1977

TRANSFERRED TO OTHER AGENCY NR
E REQUESTED - CIA

NR

LATIN AMERICA

3.3(b)(1)

Argentina

Promotions Linked to Rights Performance. [redacted] the moderate Videla-Viola faction of the army plans to use this year's promotion cycle to help clean up abuses committed by the security forces. [redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

3.3(b)(1)

--a colonel has been specifically told that he will be assigned to Corps I (Buenos

* While this round-up focuses primarily on countries receiving development or security assistance or likely to make FMS cash purchases, human rights developments in other countries are also covered on a selective SECRET basis.
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Aires region) duties to control "untoward security incidents" there;

--Colonel Ramon Juan Alberto Camps, Chief of Police for Buenos Aires Province, believes he will be passed over for promotion because of abuses that have occurred within his jurisdiction, especially in the city of La Plata; Camps perceives a clear army trend against those who have pursued vigorous counterterrorist activities, even though he claims not to have received orders to alter significantly his methods;

3.3(b)(1)

--another colonel believes he will not be promoted because superiors blame him for failing to control a civilian vigilante group; the group [redacted] has ignored an army order to disband, and its members are hiding to avoid detention;

--all three armed services plan foreign assignments for officers guilty of illegal activities, in an effort to remove them from the scene.

[redacted] 3.5(c)

INR Comment: The statement by Police Chief Camps and the task assigned to the new Corps I officer are particularly significant because they involve the areas where abuses have occurred most frequently in recent months. If the reported plans are implemented, they will constitute a challenge to Corps I commander General Suarez Mason, a tough hardliner known to condone counterterrorist excesses. According to earlier reports, Videla also plans to retire Suarez Mason. While the prospect of a possible increase in civilian vigilante activity independent of military oversight is worrisome, the military's grip is tight enough to prevent the proliferation of such groups if that is the government's desire. [redacted] 3.5(c)

[redacted] NR

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